

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

**DOCKETING DEPARTMENT**

**NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING**

**DOCKET NO. 2007-244-W**

**SOUTHLAND UTILITIES, INC. – APPLICATION FOR ADJUSTMENT OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE PROVISION OF WATER SERVICE**

Southland Utilities, Inc. (Southland or the Company) has filed an Application with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) for an adjustment of the Company's rates and charges and modification of certain terms and conditions for the provision of water service. Southland is a public utility, as defined by S.C. Code Ann. § 58-5-10(3) (Supp. 2006), providing water service to the public for compensation in certain areas of South Carolina pursuant to rates approved by the Commission in Docket No. 90-551-W.

Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-5-240 (Supp. 2006) and 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-712.4.A (1976, as amended), the Company requests that the Commission approve an increase in its monthly water service rates. Also, pursuant to 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. R. 103-703, Southland proposes a modification to the terms and conditions under which a tenant will be billed for water services to comport with current S.C. Code Ann. § 27-33-50 (Supp. 2006). Additionally, the Company proposes to add language requiring its customers to conduct cross connection testing and to add a charge for same if such inspections are undertaken by the Company to meet the requirements of 24A S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-58.7.F.8 (Supp. 2006). The Company proposes to delete certain provisions pertaining to payments by persons making contributions in aid of construction and to modify provisions dealing with single family equivalents to incorporate the pertinent regulation of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control ("DHEC") in lieu of the current table or ratings.

In support of its request for an adjustment in the Company's water rates, terms and conditions Southland asserts, among other things, that the proposed water rate increases are necessary in order that it may provide reasonable and adequate service to its customers, comply with standards and regulations set by DHEC and other governmental agencies which regulate the environmental aspects of the Company's business, and earn a reasonable return on its investment and attract capital for future improvements. The Company also asserts that the proposed water rate increases are necessary to preserve its financial integrity and to permit continued investment in and maintenance of its facilities so as to provide reliable and high quality services.

**THE PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE RATES AND CHARGES ARE SET FORTH BELOW**  
(The complete rate schedule is available from the Company at the address below and on the Commission's website at [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov))

**DOCKET NO. 2007-244-W**  
**NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING**  
**PAGE 2**

**WATER**

<b>Monthly Charges</b> <b><u>Residential (per single family house,</u></b> <b><u>condominium, mobile home, apartment unit)</u></b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
Basic Facilities Charge	\$7.00 per unit	\$21.79 per unit
Commodity Charge	\$2.60 per 1,000 gallons	\$8.09 per 1,000 gallons or 134 cft
<b><u>Commercial</u></b>		
Basic Facilities Charge		
Per single family equivalent	\$7.00	\$21.79
Commodity Charge:	\$2.60 per 1,000 gallons	\$8.09 per 1,000 gallons or 134 cft

A copy of the Company's Application can be obtained from the Commission at the following address: Public Service Commission of South Carolina, Docketing Department, P.O. Drawer 11649, Columbia, South Carolina 29211. Additionally, Southland's Application is available on the Commission's website at [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov).

In order for testimony and evidence to be received from all interested parties, a public hearing will be held in the Commission's Hearing Room, Synergy Business Park, 101 Executive Center Dr., Columbia, S.C. on **Thursday, October 18, 2007, at 10:30 a.m.**

Any person who wishes to participate in this matter, as a party of record with the right of cross-examination should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, on or before **August 3, 2007**, and indicate the amount of time required for his presentation. Please include an email address for receipt of future Commission correspondence in the Petition to Intervene. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2007-244-W.***

Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at the hearing should notify, in writing, the Docketing Department at the address below, the Office of Regulatory Staff, at Post Office Box 11263, Columbia, South Carolina 29211 and John M.S. Hoefer, Esquire, Willoughby & Hoefer, P.A., Post Office Box 8416, Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8416 on or before **August 3, 2007**, and indicate the amount of time required for the presentation. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2007-244-W.***

**Any person who wishes to request a hearing in his or her county of residence should notify before September 7, 2007**, in writing, the Docketing Department at the address below, the Office of Regulatory Staff, at Post Office Box 11263, Columbia, South Carolina 29211 and John M. S. Hoefer, Esquire, Willoughby & Hoefer, P.A., Post Office Box 8416, Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8416. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2007-244-W.***

**DOCKET NO. 2007-244-W**  
**NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING**  
**PAGE 3**

Any person, who wishes to be notified of any change in the hearing date, but does not wish to present testimony or be a party of record, may do so by notifying the Docketing Department in writing at the address below on or before **August 3, 2007**. *Please refer to Docket No. 2007-244-W.*

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:** Any person who wishes to have his or her comments considered as part of the official record of this proceeding **MUST** present such comments, in person, to the Commission during the hearing.

Persons seeking information about the Commission's Procedures should contact the Commission in Columbia at 803-896-5100.

Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
Attn: Docketing Department  
Post Office Drawer 11649  
Columbia, SC 29211

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